

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please find a clean version of a replacement abstract enclosed herewith on a separate sheet, the replacement abstract reading as follows:

A full duplex wireless communication system (100) ~~employs a method for improving perceived signal quality of transmitted information within the system. The wireless communication system includes fixed infrastructure equipment and~~ one or more wireless communication devices (101). ~~The~~ and fixed infrastructure equipment that includes at least a transcoder (201), a router (203) and a base transceiver site (BTS, 103). ~~The router is operably coupled between the transcoder and the BTS, and supports a non-deterministic packetized transport for communicating information between the transcoder and the BTS as information packets. To reduce delays of information packets communicated between the transcoder and the BTS, and thereby improve the perceived quality of communications that include such information packets, the transcoder, router and BTS employ a unique synchronization-based priority scheme for communicating information packets from the transcoder to the BTS. In accordance with the priority scheme, an indication of the status of synchronization between the transcoder and the BTS is included in an information packet to guide the router's processing of the packet. The router examines the priority and either stores the packet or communicates the packet to the BTS. In the event that the router stores the packet, the router preferably inserts a time-delay indication into a portion of the packet to inform the BTS of how long the packet was stored. The BTS uses the time-delay indication to determine a desired transcoder transmission time for a subsequent packet of the same communication, and communicates an indication of the desired transcoder transmission time to the transcoder.~~

2. Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 20 with the following replacement paragraph:

The timing at which the BSC communicates compressed transmission frames to a BTS also depends on the particular radio transmission access protocol employed by the BTS. Such timing is particularly important when the access protocol is time-based, such as the TDMA protocol utilized in the "iDEN" system and other digital cellular systems (e.g., the Global System for Mobile

Communications (GSM)). For proper transmission from a BTS that utilizes a TDMA protocol, the BTS and BSC must be synchronized such that the BSC conveys an information packet, which ~~may~~ may include multiple transmission frames, to the BTS prior to the beginning of the transmission time slot allocated for transmitting the packet. Optimally, the packet should arrive at the BTS just early enough to enable the BTS to process the packet (e.g., modulate, filter, upconvert, and amplify) before the beginning of the transmission time slot to minimize the amount of buffering or storage of compressed audio that must occur at the BTS and, therefore, minimize the gaps or choppiness in audio perceived by the user of the recipient communication device.

3. Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 15 with the following replacement paragraph:

~~The~~

The infrastructure components of the system 100 are interconnected via various communication links. Such links may comprise any known communication links, including without limitation, leased telephone lines, such as T1 or T3 lines, microwave links, integrated services digital network (ISDN) lines, digital subscriber lines (DSLs), low speed (e.g., 56 kilobit per second) data links, RS-232 links, or a common hardware bus (e.g., when the BTS 103 is directly coupled to the ACG 105, the BSC 107 or other system controller, such as when the BTS 103 and the ACG 105 are collocated). In the event that any infrastructure component shown in FIG. 1 as being directly coupled to another component is not so directly coupled, the communication links between such infrastructure components may include other elements, such as switches or switching centers, routers, gateways, bridges, controllers, or any other components used to interconnect systems or portions thereof.